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ORD-8161-69

24 October 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Report on the Test of the Telex Magnetic Tape Drives

1. The following is a report on the test of the Telex magnetic tape drives, and the advantages and disadvantages of Telex magnetic tape drives compared with IBM magnetic tape drives (nine channel only). The test was arranged through Mr. [REDACTED] of CPPB and conducted in the IPRD.

2. In order to test the Telex tape drives, two (2) IBM tape drives were removed from the 360 system and two (2) Telex tape drives were installed in their place. Four tape test programs that would run under the IBM operating system were used. These programs were written to test the efficiency of the Telex tape drives and to use both Telex drives. A fifth program, which was written by IBM, was used on the Telex tape drives. This program, which did not run under IBM's operating system, used only one (1) tape drive. The tests were conducted over a period of twenty 9-hour days. Of the total 180 hours, 92 hours were available to test the units because of scheduled maintenance and time allotted for SDC's ADEPT. Of these 92 hours, test time was between 20 and 25 hours.

3. The Telex magnetic tape drives seemed to perform as well as the IBM magnetic tape drives. The main problem encountered was a bad transistor card. The advantages of Telex are: (1) units cost less; and (2) no limit to the amount of time used on drives. One of the disadvantages of Telex drives is that they need cleaning more often.

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4. Since the tests proved satisfactory, the IPRD is replacing their four IBM nine-track magnetic tape drives with four Telex nine-track magnetic tape drives.

5. Other details are enclosed in the attached report; any questions about the tests should be referred to Mr. [REDACTED]

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SIGNED

[REDACTED]

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An/ORD/DD/S&T

Attachment

Distribution:

- Orig. - Subject
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